

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

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AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, GW

SUBJ: URANIUM ENRICHMENT

REF: BONN 17172

1. PROPOSALS BY UTILITIES FOR FIRST CORE SALES OF 540 TNNES SW
FOR KRUEMMEL AND GRAFENRHEINFELD WOULD NOT MEET ESTABLISHED
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CONDITIOS FOR SHORT-TERM FIXED-COMMITMENT TYPE CONTRACT IN

TWO RESPECTS:

A. SUCH CONTRACTS ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE WORKING INVENTORIES FOR FUEL FABRICATORS RATHER THAN FOR REACTOR FUELING; AND

B. SUCH CONTRACTS MAY BE ENTERED INTO A MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS BEFORE INITIAL DELIVERY OF ENRICHED URANIUM. AEC NOT PREPARED TO WAIVE ESTABLISHED CONDITIONS FOR PROPOSED FIRST CORES.

2. WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBILITY OF ADVANCE SALE OF 540 TONNES SW, AEC'S CURRENT CONCERN IS THAT ENTERING INTO SUCH CONTRACTS MIGHT INTERFERE WITH ITS ABILITY LATER TO ACCOMMODATE REQUESTS FOR LONG-TERM ENRICHMENT SERVICES CONTRACTS COVERING CAPACITY OF AEC DIFFUSION PLANTS, WHICH CONTRACTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THEIR CONTINUED ECONOMIC OPERATION. HOWEVER, AS INDICATED STATE 203324, U.S. WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE ACCOMMODATIONS TO NORMAL POLICIES SO THAT SALE OF ENRICHMENT SERVICES COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE OFFSET AGREEMENT AND THUS WOULD BE PREPARED TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATION FOR PROPOSED 540 TONNE SALE UNDER OFFSET.

3. IF NOT POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE UNDER OFFSET, CONTRACTING PATTERNS DURING TRANSITION PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1974, WILL PERMIT ACCUMULATION OF INFORMATION OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, WHICH MAY PERMIT AEC TO CONSIDER ADVANCE SALE FOR 540 TONNES LATER IN FY 1974. IF ADVANCED PURCHASE ON SUCH TIMING IS OF INTEREST, AEC WOULD BE PREPARED IN THE SPRING TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL IN THIS REGARD. RUSH

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